



*Fédération
Aéronautique
Internationale*



Minutes

of the Annual Meeting of the **FAI General Aviation Commission**

held in Palma de Mallorca, Spain
on 07 November 2009

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1. Welcome and Roll Call of the Delegates

The meeting of the General Aviation Commission (GAC) was called to order Saturday, 07 November 2009 at 09:04 by Mr. Pedro Cabañero, GAC President. He welcomed all persons in attendance and then introduced Mr. Pierre Portmann, FAI President, as well as the hosts, Mr. Manuel Roca Viaña, President, Real Federación Aeronáutica Española (RFAE), and Mr. José Luis Olías Sánchez, President, Real Aero Club de España (RACE).

A roll call of the delegates was made by Mr. Art Greenfield, Secretary. The following proxies were approved: Portugal to Spain and Greece to Cyprus. For the record, it was noted there were 22 votes present, including proxies (see Annex 01). Mongolia was welcomed to the meeting as observers.

Mr. Cabañero asked if anyone wished to make a declaration of a conflict of interest, and there were none.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was unanimously approved, with the addition of one new item: the approval of international jury members and judges.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held in Prague (Czech Republic) on 18 October 2008 were unanimously approved.

4. Report On GAC Activities during the Year

Mr. Pedro Cabañero reported on various commission-related activities during the year. First, he noted the large turnout for the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He also welcomed several new participants from Mongolia and Romania. He thanked Mr. Pierre Portmann, FAI President, for attending, noting that he is also a President of Honor of GAC.

Mr. Cabañero stated that he was unable to attend the Air Sport Commission Presidents' Meeting in Lausanne (Switzerland) in May. However, he did attend the second such meeting in October, which was held in conjunction with the FAI General Conference in Incheon (Korea).

Mr. Cabañero thanked the organizers and participants of the two major GAC events of the year, both of which were a great success: the FAI World Precision Flying Championship and the FAI European Rally Flying Championship. He recognized that organizing these events is a hard job, but urged more participation from other countries.

Looking to the future, Mr. Cabañero noted that the Air Navigation Race holds great potential for GAC, and also reminded delegates of the need for continued participation in the traditional GAC events of Rally Flying, Precision Flying, and Long Range Air Races.

5. Report On FAI Activities during the Year

Mr. Max Bishop, FAI Secretary General reported on various FAI activities during the year. He noted that it had been a busy year, especially with the 3rd FAI World Air Games that were held in Torino (Italy) in June. Much had been learned during the first two WAG in 1997 and 2001,

and a new formula was conceived for the event in Torino. This new formula included limiting participation to the world's top-ranked competitors, and concentrating the events to a smaller geographical area. Although the world financial crisis had its impact on the event, it was well organized and enjoyed by those who participated. FAI hopes to hold the next WAG in Odense (Denmark) in 2011.

In May, FAI held its first meeting of NAC presidents in Lausanne (Switzerland). It was believed to be a very valuable exercise and therefore will be repeated in 2010.

The Red Bull Air Race World Championship became an official FAI event this year, under the direct authority of the FAI General Conference. FAI's involvement includes the appointment of stewards who ensure that competition rules and safety guidelines are maintained, and the awarding of prize medals. The final round of this six-round event was held in Barcelona (Spain) with an estimated 900,000 people in attendance.

Mr. Bishop reminded the delegates of FAI's contract with Flying Aces Limited, a London-based television media firm with exclusive rights to broadcast FAI events. The new Air Navigation Race being developed by GAC is expected to attract media interest, but he cautioned GAC to work closely with FAI headquarters to ensure contractual compliance with Flying Aces.

Mr. Bishop reported that the annual FAI General Conference was held in Incheon (Korea) in October. Asia is part of the world that is developing quickly and has few airspace restrictions, and holds great opportunities for FAI and its Air Sport Commissions. He hoped that GAC could help Mongolia develop aviation in that country.

Mr. Bishop said that he believes GAC has an important role to play in FAI and general aviation. There are more records set in airplanes than in any other record class, and airplane records are the most visible records in the eyes of the general public. Therefore, world records should be given a higher priority within GAC and he urged the delegates to take greater interest in them.

Finally, Mr. Bishop noted that he would be leaving FAI at the end of January after nearly 17 years of service. Although he will cease the "daily grind," he plans to stay in Lausanne and looks forward to seeing everyone during future social activities.

6. Past International Competitions

19th FAI World Precision Flying Championship

The 19th FAI World Precision Flying Championship was held in Torun (Poland) in July. Mr. Vagn Jensen, International Jury President, presented his report (see Annex 02).

7th FAI European Rally Flying Championship

The 7th FAI European Rally Flying Championship was held in Castellon (Spain) in September. Mr. Krzysztof Lenartowicz, International Jury President, presented his report (see Annex 03).

7. Future International Competitions

17th FAI World Rally Flying Championship

The 17th FAI World Rally Flying Championship will be held in Dubnica nad Váhom (Slovak Republic) in August 2010. Mr. Jan Chudy, Competition Director, presented the final local rules for the event (see Annex 04). The rules were unanimously approved.

18th FAI World Rally Flying Championship

Mr. Andrzej Osowski presented a preliminary bid to hold the 18th FAI World Rally Flying Championship in Jelenia Góra (Poland) in 2012 (see Annex 05). The bid was approved.

20th FAI World Precision Flying Championship

Mr. Hans Schwebel expressed an interest in bidding for the 20th FAI World Precision Flying Championship in 2011. He indicated that the location would be either Bloemfontein or Cape Town (South Africa), and that a final decision regarding the bid would be made in February 2010.

8. Subcommittee Reports

Air Navigation Race Subcommittee

Mr. Heini Schawalder, Chairman of the Air Navigation Race Subcommittee, reported on the work of the subcommittee during the past year (see Annex 06).

Mr. Schawalder then presented a draft version of the ANR Rules and Regulations, Air Navigation Race, 2010 edition (see Annex 07). The draft was unanimously approved.

There was much discussion about the price that users should pay for the ANR scoring software. Mr. Pedro Cabañero concluded that because of the unknown costs involved with maintaining and distributing the software, it was too early to decide its price.

Precision Flying Subcommittee

Mr. Johann Gutmann, Chairman of the Precision Flying Subcommittee, proposed several changes to the Rules and Regulations for Precision Flying (see Annex 08). The proposed changes (noted in red in Annex 08) were approved.

Rally Flying Subcommittee

Mr. Andrzej Osowski, Chairman of the Rally Flying Subcommittee, proposed changes to the Rally Flying rules (see Annex 09). The proposed change to paragraph A 3.5.11 was unanimously approved, and the proposed changes to paragraph A4 were approved, 21 in favor, 1 abstention.

Records Subcommittee

Mr. Art Greenfield, Chairman of the Records Subcommittee, proposed changes to Section 2 of the FAI Sporting Code (see Annex 10). The proposed changes were approved and will take effect 01 January 2010.

Mr. Greenfield then proposed that the Records Subcommittee be given authority to provide interpretations of the Sporting Code when questions arise. He noted that currently there is no means to address such questions between meetings of GAC. The proposal was approved, 21 in favor, 1 against.

Mr. Greenfield noted that currently there is no provision in the FAI Sporting Code for electric powerplants and that a request to set a record with such an airplane may be imminent. Mr. Max Bishop noted that the FAI Amateur Built and Experimental Aircraft Commission had been working on a draft sporting code for electric powered airplanes and that he would write to the commission president to express the concern noted by Mr. Greenfield.

9. Finances

Treasurer's report

Mr. Jiří Dodal, GAC Treasurer, reviewed the income and expenditures during 2009 (see Annex 11). The report was unanimously accepted.

Budget for 2010

Mr. Dodal also presented the proposed budget for 2010 (see Annex 11). The budget was approved; 20 in favor, 2 abstentions.

10. Technical Representative Reports

Webmaster

Mr. Hans Schwebel reported for Mr. Chris Booyesen, GAC webmaster (see Annex 12). Mr. Pedro Cabañero noted that the content of the website had improved dramatically over the past two months and that delegates should continue to provide content. Mr. Schwebel added that material for the website (such as competition rules, for example) that has not yet been approved by GAC should clearly be marked as "draft."

Technical Advisor, GNSS

Mr. Hans Schwebel reported for Mr. Jan Hanekom, GAC Technical Advisor, GNSS (see Annex 13). In his report, Mr. Hanekom proposed:

- 1) that the "GeoTracker" (manufactured by C&N) be banned with immediate effect;
- 2) that the "AFLOS" (manufactured by BeHeTec GmbH & Co. KG) not be used for competition unless the display is sealed before flight; and
- 3) that all manufacturers of GAC-approved devices be reminded that their websites must provide the necessary support information.

The proposals were unanimously approved and Mr. Art Greenfield agreed to notify the manufacturers (as described in item 3 above) on behalf of GAC.

11. Awards

FAI Air Sport Medal

Mr. Pedro Cabañero presented the FAI Air Sport Medal to Mr. Jiří Dodal. It was noted that Mr. Dodal had made numerous contributions to air sports over a period of 25 years. Mr. Dodal expressed his thanks to the commission for nominating him for the award.

Charles Lindbergh General Aviation Diploma

Mr. Pedro Cabañero noted that last year GAC had decided to award the Charles Lindbergh General Aviation Diploma to Mr. Krzysztof Lenartowicz. However, the Aero Club of Poland had not yet supported the nomination in writing, as required in paragraph 10.1.3.2. of the FAI By-Laws. Mr. Max Bishop agreed to contact the Aero Club of Poland informing them of this requirement.

12. Other Business

Future Competition Strategy

Mr. Andrzej Osowski presented a list of future GAC competition events for the years 2009-2015 (see Annex 14). The list contains events already approved by GAC as well as those still open for bidding.

13. Elections

The commission held elections with the results as follows:

Election of the Bureau

President..... Mr. Pedro Cabañero
Vice President/Secretary..... Mr. Art Greenfield
Vice President/Treasurer Mr. Jiří Dodal

Election of Subcommittee Chairmen

Precision Flying Subcommittee Chairman..... Mr. Johann Gutmann
Rally Flying Subcommittee Chairman Mr. Andrzej Osowski
Air Nav Race Subcommittee Chairman..... Mr. Heinrich Schawalder
Records Subcommittee Chairman..... Mr. Art Greenfield

Election of Technical Representatives

CASI representative Mr. Pedro Cabañero
FAI Environmental Commission representative.... Mr. Henry Lindholm
World Air Games Liaison Officer Mr. Heini Schawalder
Webmaster Mr. Chris Booyesen
Technical Adviser, GNSS..... Mr. Jan Hanekom
Technical Adviser, Long Range Air Racing Mr. Johann Gutmann

14. Date and Time of the Next GAC Plenary Meeting

Mr. Pedro Cabañero noted that it would require a 2/3 majority vote to hold the next GAC meeting outside of Lausanne (Switzerland) and that a bid to host the meeting in 2010 had been received from Mongolia.

Mr. Gombosuren Ikhbayar, President, Mongolian Air Sport's Federation, presented a bid to hold the next GAC meeting in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia). The bid did not receive the necessary 2/3 majority vote. Therefore, the next GAC meeting will be held in Lausanne (Switzerland), 28-30 October 2010.

15. Adjournment

Mr. Pedro Cabañero adjourned the meeting at 17:35.

Prepared by Mr. Art Greenfield
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